Council for Health and Family Welfare to include drinking water within the definition of food under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954. Appropriate steps have been initiated to amend the relevant provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration, Act, 1954.

The 8th Conference of CCH&FW in its meeting held on 28-29th August, 2003 had deliberated on the problem of spurious drugs including stricter penalties for offencs for manufacture, sale etc. of spurious drugs. There was general consensus on the issue of imposing death sentence for manufacture and sale of spurious drugs that cause grievous hurt.

Government has initiated steps to bring forth a legislation for amending the penal provisions under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 on the lines suggested by the Mashelkar Committee in its interim report including introduction of Capital punishment for manufacture and sale of spurious drugs that cause grievous injuries.

The issue of augmentation or strengthening the existing enforcement agencies as per the recommendation made in the final report of the Mashelkar Committee is under examination of the Government.

Free treatment of HIV positive children

516. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made a special provision for free treatment of HIV positive children below 14 years of age, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of such HIV afflicted children, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken so far in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) The Government has proposed to provide treatment of eligible HIV positive children below 15 years of age with effect from 1st April 2004 in government hospitals of six high prevalence states, namely Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland & Karnataka in a phased manner.The statement showing state wise numbers of reported HIV afflicted children under 15 years of age in the year 2002 is given *(See* below)

(c) Deliberations have been initiated with Pharmaceutical Industry, producing anti-retroviral drugs to find out the modalities for reducing the prices of anti-retroviral drugs for treatment of HIV/AIDS patients. Government have also initiated dialogue with the Confederation of Indian Industries and Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry for mobilization of resources to strengthen training and diagnostic facilities in Government hospitals.

Statement

Statewise details of HIV/AIDS infection in the age group of 0-14 years during year 2002

SI. No.	Name of the State	Total in the Staff
1	2	3
1	Ahmedabad MACS	82
2	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0
3	Andhra Pradesh	441
4	Arunachal Pradesh	0
5	Assam	0
6	Bihar	36
7	Chandigarh	39
8	Chennai MACS	1
9	Chhattisgarh	
10	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3
11	Daman & Diu	1
12	Delhi	179
13	Goa	37
14	Gujarat	170
15	Haryana	18
16	Himachal Pradesh	8
17	Jammu & Kashmir	1
18	Jharkhand	0

1	2	3
19	Karnataka	167
20	Kerala	3
21	Lakshadweep	
22	Madhya Pradesh	56
23	Maharashtra	212
24	Manipur	95
25	Meghalaya	0
26	Mizoram	7
27	Mumbai MACS	252
28	Nagaland	0
29	Orissa	6
30	Pondicherry	24
31	Punjab	17
32	Rajasthan	41
33	Sikkim	0
34	Tamil Nadu	463
35	Tripura	0
36	Uttar Pradesh	86
37	Uttaranchal	4
38	West Bengal	28
	TOTAL :	2477

Sale of abortion pills

517. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that abortion pills are SoId at various places in the country; and

(b) if so, the nature of cases that have come to notice and the measures taken to stop this menace?